



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

*Christabel*, by SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE.

Illustrated by a Facsimile of the Manuscript and by Textual and Other Notes by ERNEST HARTLEY COLERIDGE, Hon. F. R. S. L. London: Henry Frowde. MCMVII. Sm. 4to., pp. xii, 113 + 38 plates. Port. and illns. 21s.

Students of modern English poetry will welcome this handsome edition of Coleridge's *Christabel* from the press of Horace Hart, Printer to Oxford University. It is published under the direction of The Royal Society of Literature, of which foundation, it will be remembered, Coleridge was himself a fellow and associate. The editor is the poet's grandson, Mr. Ernest Hartley Coleridge, and it is noteworthy that he has dedicated the volume to the other two surviving grandchildren of the poet, viz., the editor's sister, Miss Christabel Coleridge and his cousin, Miss Edith Coleridge. The latter is the owner of the manuscript which is herein reproduced in facsimile.

Mr. Coleridge includes with his reprint much supplementary matter that will henceforth be indispensable to students. The volume contains the fullest and most reliable account of the sources and genesis of the poem. Incidentally, the editor contends that the Conclusion to Part I of *Christabel* was not written, as generally supposed, at the time of the original draft of 1798, but at Greta Hall in 1800, after Part II had been composed. Among Mr. Coleridge's most valuable contributions to this edition are the "localizing" of the Second Part and his interesting notes on the "snake-maiden" of the type of Geraldine.

With his usual care and detail, Mr. Coleridge brings together the contemporary allusions to *Christabel* and shows how the incomplete (and incompletable) poem remained a fragment, in spite of the poet's reiterated expression of his determination to finish it. He gives an extensive account of the publication of the poem in 1816 and of its reception at the hands of the reviewers.

The reproduction of the manuscript in facsimile has been very successfully accomplished in a series of thirty-eight plates. It is regrettable that these plates are not furnished with bracketed pagination, nor with marginal notation of lines, both of which would have been useful in facilitating a

comparison of the document with the admirable variorum text that follows the facsimile.

Mr. Coleridge adopts the text of 1834 in preference to that of 1829, but he gives all the variant readings of the earlier editions and of the various accessible manuscripts. He likewise cites the marginal changes recorded by the poet in the David Hinves copy of the first edition. Many valuable annotations grace the bottom of these pages.

The four appendices that complete the volume offer further evidence of Mr. Coleridge's zeal to perform his task most adequately. In Appendix I he enumerates the reviews and notices of *Christabel* with brief excerpts from the more interesting critiques. Appendix II is a list of parodies and continuations of the poem. It includes eight titles, from *Christobell, a Gothic Tale* (1815) to Eliza Stewart's *Christabel, continued from Coleridge* (1841). Mr. Coleridge does not mention E. J. Chapman's *The Snake-Witch* (London, 1899), which at least merits mention for its presumption, if not for its intrinsic worth. Appendix III gives the complete text of the above-mentioned *Christobell, a Gothic Tale*, which had the rare distinction of appearing in print more than a year before the publication of the fragment which it was designed to complete. Appendix IV is a Bibliographical Index, giving detailed collations of the principal editions of the poem from 1816 to 1904.

In this brief summary of contents it is impossible to convey any satisfactory idea of the evident care that Mr. Coleridge has bestowed upon this beautiful volume. It is doubtful whether many poems in our language have received such attention as is herein accorded in 125 quarto pages and 38 plates to the 677 lines that constitute *Christabel*. However, no reader who has come under the witching spell of its melody will feel that love's labor was in any wise lost upon this edition of what the poet himself loved to call "the *Christabel*."

JOHN LOUIS HANEY.

Central High School, Philadelphia.